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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 14, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 9 totaled an estimated 14.6 billion ton-miles, 4.9 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 14 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 210.0 billion ton-miles, 5.7 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended April 9 totaled 338,045 cars, 5.1 percent below 1982, but 3.6 percent higher than the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 7.5 percent in the East, 2.6 percent in the South and 4.9 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 12 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of nonmetallic minerals were up 1,707 cars, or 18.8 percent, and loadings of motor vehicles and equipment were up 2,243 cars, or 17.2 percent. Eleven of the 21 groups were up from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended April 2 totaled 41,886 cars, up 10.2 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 72,060 trailers and/or containers, 11.8 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 13 weeks of the year was 539,182 cars, 14.9 percent higher than last year, and 920,319 trailers and/or containers, up 12.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/9/83:

	Loadings in Week ended April 9, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	21,241	D	3,656	14.7	I	823	4.0
Other farm products	2,638	D	60	2.2	D	350	11.7
Metallic ores	14,372	D	4,974	25.7	I	2,581	21.9
Coal	96,110	D	17,397	15.3	I	10,252	11.9
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,016	D	22	0.2	I	1,167	14.9
Nonmetallic minerals	10,790	I	1,707	18.8	I	1,548	16.7
Grain mill products	10,561	D	443	4.0	D	278	2.6
Food and kindred products	11,786	I	126	1.1	I	748	6.8
Primary forest products	14,055	D	757	5.1	D	468	3.2
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,562	I	931	16.5	D	438	0.6
Pulp, paper and allied products	14,705	D	997	6.3	D	857	5.5
Chemicals and allied products	22,506	I	1,141	5.3	D	207	0.9
Petroleum products	4,378	I	34	0.8	I	526	13.7
Stone, clay and glass products	9,477	I	229	2.5	I	114	1.2
Coke	4,659	D	485	9.4	I	400	9.4
Metals and products	8,625	D	722	7.7	D	494	5.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,250	I	2,243	17.2	I	53	0.3
Waste and scrap materials	7,758	I	102	1.3	I	419	5.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,962	D	205	2.5	D	630	7.3
All other carloads	45,390	I	6,203	15.8	D	3,163	6.5
LCL traffic	204	D	1,133	84.7	D	7	3.3
Total Cars Loaded	338,045	D	18,135	5.1	I	11,739	3.6
Corresponding week of 1982	356,180						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (14 weeks)	4,820,718	5,306,998	D 9.2
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
13 weeks ended April 2	195.4	207.4	D 5.8
Week ended April 9	14.6	15.3	D 4.9
14 weeks cumulative	210.0	222.7	D 5.7

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